



NEWS RELEASE

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Caltrans Issues Bay Bridge Tower Rod Testing Update

OAKLAND—Caltrans today issued another public update on the testing of 422 Bay Bridge tower anchor rods, which included data showing 99.7 percent of the rods tested to date are holding load and functioning as designed.

“More than 99 percent of the bolts we have already tested in the Bay Bridge tower foundation are not broken,” said Dr. Brian Maroney, the chief engineer overseeing the bridge construction. “This is really good news and there are only a few more left to test.”

Caltrans released test results showing that of the 395 bolts in the Tower Foundation of the landmark span that have been tested for integrity, 394 of them passed the rigorous “pull test,” and are not broken.

The pull test involves a powerful jacking device that grabs and pulls at the rods under enormous force. One rod was visually different from the others - it was 6 inches shorter, was removed late Tuesday and found to have broken near its bottom. 14 of the 422 rods in the foundation can’t be tested because the threads don’t stick out far enough to connect the testing machine.

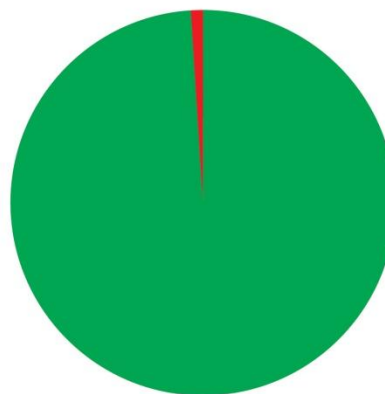
The test results released today show that the anchorage system at the bottom of the tower will function as designed.

Engineers and workers involved in the Bay Bridge project are committed to transparency and communicating complex engineering issues as clearly as possible. Engineers have traveled the state meeting with universities, public and private-sector engineers, metallurgists, experts, and even critics—and have posted hundreds of thousands of records online including fact sheets, construction documents, and photos and videos that help explain how the bridge works. Visit www.baybridgeinfo.org for more details.

Bay Bridge Anchor Rod Testing

as of May 20, 2015

Green = Passed
Red = Pending or not passed



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